

Focus Magazine Article - January 2017

Soroptimist International  
*Women inspiring action,  
transforming lives*



***Garstang Soroptimists wish you all A Very Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year!***

We would like to say – **A big THANK YOU!**

We asked for your support at the Victorian Festival as we sold our parched peas and you came!!

We upped our game this time, as we always seem to sell out early, to **40lbs of peas!** And still we had to disappoint some of you.

Our tasty peas, cooked in (gluten free) vegetable stock, are gaining quite a following – many lidded pots going home for friends unable to come! With your help we raised **£377.00**. This money means that you have provided the means for **30 children** to have **a good meal every day** for a whole school year. Our total stood at 57 in the Focus November issue, I will give you the total for Annemarie's year in the May issue, after our change of officers at the end of April.

Thank you also for your support in buying raffle tickets for the **Christmas Hamper** provided by our club members, and given to the Chamber of Trade, who sold the tickets. This joint effort raising **£240** towards the cost of the Christmas lights which make our town look festive and welcoming for everyone.

***Calling all children*** – we need your help.

Did Santa bring you a new backpack for your school things? If you have an old one and don't need it any more please would you give it to our club to be filled with all the things needed to go to school, for very poor children in Africa, from getting up in the morning – soap, towel, tooth brush and paste, to arriving at school - books, pens, pencils rubbers etc. You and your family may be planning a holiday soon, just think, **you** might not be **able to go to Africa**, but your **old backpack can!!** You could take it to the Mustard Seed café in Garstang, or give me a ring and I will arrange for collection. Details below. Thank you.

Mustard Seed Café, Park Hill Road (Opposite the Wheat Sheaf Pub) they are open Tuesday 10.00am to 2.00pm Thurs. 10.00am to 2.00pm. Saturday 10.00am to 2.00pm

***New Year Resolutions? New interests, new challenges?*** Could it be that you have decided to go out more, make more friends? Have you decided to expand your business and professional networks, or get involved in a bit of charity work? Are you going to do something really worthwhile!? How would you like to join the largest women's worldwide service organisation? Garstang Soroptimists would love to welcome you!

So why don't you join this boundless network? ***It could be the best thing you've ever done!***

We meet twice a month at the Garstang Hotel and Golf Club. 7.30pm, on the second and fourth Wednesday, interested ladies and visitors from throughout the Garstang and Over Wyre area are always very welcome. Please give me a ring and have a chat and/or arrange a visit.